POL 23-9 Libya

POL 1 Libya-USSR

Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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ACTION AF 18

INFO OCT 01, EUR 17, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,
NSC 10, P 03, RSC 01, PRS 01, SS 20, USIA 12, NEA 13, E 15, UCF 05,
AID 28, IO 13, RSR 01, /174 W

R 031035Z SEP 69
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3914
INFO AMCONSULATE BAIDA
AMEMBASSY BENGHAZI
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
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AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY [illegible] DATE 12 JUL 1982
RD or XDS EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED RELEASABLE ☑
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PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

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SUBJ: SOVIET TREATMENT OF LIBYAN COUP: CAUTIOUS

1. THE SOVIET EVENING PRESS SEPT 2 AND MORNING PRESS SEPT 3 CARRIES ITS FIRST REPORTING OF THE LIBYAN ARMY REVOLT, GUARDEDLY GREETING THE BIRTH OF A "REPUBLIC" HEADED BY A "REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL AIMING AT THE CREATION OF A SOCIALIST, PROGRESSIVE LIBYA FIGHTING AGAINST RACISM AND COLONIALISM."

2. A NOTE OF CAUTION IS SOUNDED CONCERNING THE WESTERN IMPERIALISTS, WHO FEAR FOR THEIR OIL INTERESTS AND MILITARY BASES IN LIBYA. TASS REPORTS THAT A STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN REFUSED TO COMMENT ON THE REVOLT, AS IT WAS AN INTERNAL LIBYAN AFFAIR.

DECON 1/1/70.
BEAM